Mr. Les Payne or
Mr. Tony Marro
Newsday
Long Island, N.Y. 11747

8/8/86

Dear Les,

As a byproduct of prostate surgery this past January I got another thrombosis and as a result I'm to spend two hours daily flat on my back with my legs elevated. Gives me some thinking time and today my mind went back over the Supreme Court hearings. I took them in except for those during the three hours of therapy with which my days begin. I was surprised that when some of what Scalia had said so contemptuously about FOIA was read back to him and he said that in fact he had sought to broaden the act none of those demon inquisitors (or staffs, of which I was once one) thought to ask how many times he had held against his former employer, the DJ, which defends, among others, itself and the FBI; and whether his condemnation of and contempt for FOIA as enabling citizens to do what the government does not do for itself extends to FOIA only exposure of the FBI's Cointerpro operations. He may have been in charge of the Office of Legal Counsel at the time of the first of those exposures.

From what I'm aware of this also seems not to have suggested itself to the new breed of invesyigative reporttrs and editors.

Hours ago I heard a newscast reporting that tomorrow Reagan goes to the hospital for undescribed urinary-tract tests. I've just heard another and there is no suggestion in it of the kinds of conditions for which going to the hospital is necessary for these tests. Wire service reporters don't think of asking a urologist? Like could it be prostate or bladder cancer?

In the event nothing much does come out and you are interested, there is a Doeppler-type bladder examination I had after my surgery, to see whether there was anything in the bladder the urologist could not see through the uretha. Yes, he looked at mine, he said, through the uretha. They can also, today, outpatient, remove part of the prostate through the uretha. They also get cysts that way. I had to be hospitalized because they took out about 50 grams. And because of my medical history. But they can and with me they did subject what they remove to analysis to determine whether there is cancer. If it were an infection only that is determined by urine analyses, of which I had two different kind after I left the hospital. I don't know how long the biopsy takes. Mine, happily, was negative.

Hope you are all well,

Harold

Harold Weisberg